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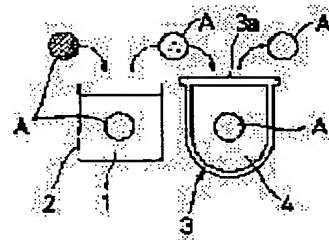
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(54) RESIST REMOVING METHOD AND RESIST STRIPPING SOLUTION

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To attain high precision resist removal by dissolving the resist applied on a substrate with a stripping agent and cleaning the substrate with a supercritical fluid soluble in the resist and stripping solution.

SOLUTION: A material A to be cleaned (semiconductor substrate) to which the resist is stuck is dipped into the stripping solution 1 of diethylene glycol monomethyl ether heated at 40° C, which is filled in a stripping vessel 2 for 2-3min. In this way, the resist applied on the material A to be cleaned is dissolved. Next, the material A to be cleaned after the resist is dissolved by the stripping solution is housed in a pressure resistant rinse vessel 3 before the vessel 3 is hermetically closed. And the material A to be cleaned is cleaned for 3min while pouring the supercritical carbon dioxide 4. After the cleaning with the supercritical carbon dioxide 4 is completed, the cover 3a of the rinse vessel 3 is opened to leave the inside of the rinse vessel 3 to ordinary temp. and pressure. Then the material A to be cleaned is dried without generating stain since the supercritical carbon dioxide 4 is instantly gasified and vaporized.



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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] The resist clearance approach characterized by washing said substrate by the supercritical fluid which has solubility to a resist and exfoliation liquid after dissolving the resist applied on the substrate with exfoliation liquid.

[Claim 2] The resist clearance approach according to claim 1 characterized by using the organic solvent of a glycol ether system as said exfoliation liquid.

[Claim 3] The resist clearance approach according to claim 1 characterized by using the supercritical fluid of a carbon dioxide as said supercritical fluid.

[Claim 4] It is the resist exfoliation liquid which exfoliates the resist adhering to a substrate. Resist exfoliation liquid characterized by for a rinse being carried out by supercritical fluid after resist exfoliation, and using as a principal component the glycol ether system organic solvent which melts into said supercritical fluid.

[Claim 5] Resist exfoliation liquid which is the resist exfoliation liquid which exfoliates the resist adhering to a substrate, and is characterized by using as a principal component the organic solvent of a glycol ether system with sufficient compatibility with said supercritical fluid in which a rinse is carried out by supercritical fluid after resist exfoliation.

[Claim 6] It is the resist exfoliation liquid which is resist exfoliation liquid according to claim 4 or 5, and is characterized by said organic solvent being the diethylene-glycol monomethyl ether.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to the resist exfoliation liquid which exfoliates the method of removing the resist used for pattern formation from a substrate, and the resist adhering to a substrate in the production process of a semiconductor device, a liquid crystal display, etc.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] It was made to dissolve with exfoliation liquid 10, and the resist to which it uses in case a pattern is formed by the wet method to a semi-conductor substrate, and after pattern formation becomes unnecessary was removed from the former by performing a rinse after that with the rinse agent 11, the alcohol 12, and the ultrapure water 13 only for exfoliation liquid, as shown in drawing 3. The washed object (semi-conductor substrate) A from which the resist was removed was further dried using the **-par 14 of alcohol. Thus, as exfoliation liquid 10 of a resist used, from before, the compound of various kinds of organic systems or an inorganic system was studied, and it has been used.

[0003] As exfoliation liquid 10, as an example used practical In what there is exfoliation liquid (Provisional-Publication-No. No. 72503 [51 to] official report etc.) which makes organic sulfonic acid a subject by the organic system, and makes alkylene glycol a subject from the former As what there is exfoliation liquid (shown in a Japanese Patent Publication No. 43-No. 7695 official report etc.), and makes a subject high polar solvents, such as dimethyl sulfoxide and dimethylformamide There is exfoliation liquid (shown in a Provisional-Publication-No. 60-No. 66424 official report, the description of U.S. Pat. No. 4304681, etc.). Or there is exfoliation liquid shown in (Provisional Publication No. No. 81949 [64 to]) to consist of mixture of polar solvents, such as gamma-butyrolactone and N-dimethyl formamide, and amino alcohol. Thus, various exfoliation liquid is studied and developed and the effective exfoliation liquid in them is also found out.

[0004]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] However, the process in which clearance of a resist dissolves a resist with exfoliation liquid 10, The process which washes the resist dissolved by exfoliation liquid 10 and exfoliation liquid 10 with the rinse agent 11, alcohol 12, and ultrapure water 13, It consisted of a process dried by the **-par 14, and if neither a washing process nor a desiccation process also progressed according to it even if exfoliation liquid could demonstrate the high exfoliation effectiveness, resist clearance with a high precision was not able to be performed in the production process of the semi-conductor with which detailed-ization progressed.

[0005] In order for the desiccation process using survival and the reattachment of the rinse agent 11 to - pattern details, alcohol 12, and the resist resulting from the lack of osmosis of ultrapure water 13 and exfoliation liquid 10, and the - alcoholic vapor 14 to specifically take a certain amount of time amount, the front face of a washed object A was made to produce the problem that silverfish occurs, in a desiccation process.

[0006] Furthermore, by the conventional resist clearance approach, many processing tubs are required for each process of - resist dissolution, washing, and desiccation. Since the danger of an activity needs expensive ultrapure water for high - washing at a large quantity in order to use the high organic solvent of - inflammability which needs a big area for installation of these facilities in the installation cost of a processing facility becoming high The waste fluid of - large quantity with which the part processing cost goes up was generated, and there were also problems, like the processing becomes complicated.

[0007] Therefore, in this invention, viscosity is low and the object of attaining the resist clearance with a high precision is carried out using this supercritical fluid paying attention to the supercritical fluid which has the description which is easy to permeate to an object.

[0008]

[Means for Solving the Problem] In order to attain such an object, after dissolving the resist applied on the substrate with exfoliation liquid in this invention, it has the description to wash said substrate by the supercritical fluid which has solubility to a resist and exfoliation liquid.

[0009] It is defined as supercritical fluid as follows. That is, it has in the matter the maximum temperature and maximum pressure of a proper it becomes impossible to live a gas and a liquid together, and is called critical temperature and the critical pressure, respectively, and the point that the matter will be in the condition of critical temperature and the critical pressure is further called the critical point. The matter calls the condition of being in the field of the temperature beyond the critical point thru/or a pressure, and is defined as supercritical fluid.

[0010] Thus, in the supercritical fluid defined, it has the middle property of - gas and a liquid, and by returning the contamination which - diffusion coefficient which can also permeate a detailed part dissolved highly to - ordinary temperature and ordinary pressure which can be distributed quickly, it becomes a gas and has the description that evaporation desiccation can be carried out promptly.

[0011] If the supercritical fluid which has such a description washes a substrate [finishing / the resist dissolution], these can be flushed by dissolving the resist which supercritical fluid permeates, and remains or carries out the reattachment, and exfoliation liquid even in the resist which entered into detailed pattern details, or exfoliation liquid. Furthermore, supercritical fluid can be evaporated by returning to ordinary temperature ordinary pressure after washing in an instant.

[0012]

[Embodiment of the Invention] Hereafter, the gestalt of 1 operation of this invention is explained to a detail with reference to a drawing. First, selection of the supercritical fluid and exfoliation liquid suitable for the resist washing

approach of this invention is explained.

[0013] As selection conditions for supercritical fluid, it is mentioned that - safety is high, having the critical point which is easy to treat, that it is cheap and economical, etc. As matter which fulfills these terms and conditions, matter, such as a carbon dioxide, a sulfur dioxide, nitrous oxide, ethane, a propane, and chlorofluocarbon, is mentioned. The carbon dioxide (carbon dioxide gas) is most suitable also in it. This is based on the following reasons. That is, a carbon dioxide also tends [comparatively] to treat an almost harmless top and the critical point with 31 degrees C and 70 atmospheric pressures to a living thing, has become, and is still cheaper, and acquisition is the easy matter. For such a reason, the carbon dioxide is adopted as supercritical fluid by this example. However, it cannot be overemphasized that matter other than the carbon dioxide hung up above can also be used as a washing object of supercritical fluid.

[0014] On the other hand, it is mentioned that the detachability (solubility) over - resist is high as selection conditions for exfoliation liquid, that the solubility over - supercritical fluid (carbon dioxide) is high, that - safety is high, etc. As matter which fulfills these terms and conditions, the organic solvent of a glycol ether system (a glycol diether system is included), a ketone system, a lactone system, an ether system, a formamide system, and a nitrogen inclusion system is mentioned.

[0015] And in view of safety, each solvent of a glycol ether system, an ether system, and a nitrogen inclusion system is mentioned as a candidate. The result of having compared these candidates by the solubility (detachability) over a resist and the solubility over supercritical fluid (carbon dioxide) is shown in the following table 1.

[0016] In addition, the detachability over a resist was compared as follows. That is, the sample which applied only the resist on the washed object (semi-conductor substrate) A was immersed in each exfoliation liquid on 25 degrees C and the immersion conditions for 3 minutes (the target of the exfoliation time amount of the mass production base is usually 8 minutes), and the detachability of a resist was compared. moreover, the thing by which the solubility over supercritical fluid (carbon dioxide) has more than 10mol%, and dissolves solubility in homogeneity -- O -- solubility -- more than 10mol% -- O was entered in what is not dissolved in the homogeneity of a certain thing, respectively.

[0017]

[A table 1]

分 類	例 示 物 質	レジスト溶解性(剥離)	超臨界二酸化炭素
グリコールエーテル系	ジエチレングリコールモノメチルエーテル	◎	◎
エーテル系	テトラヒドロフラン	◎	○
窒素含有物	N-メチル2ピロリドン	◎	○
ラクトン系	γ-ブチロラクトン	◎	○

[0018] It turns out that the organic solvent of a glycol ether system is excellent also in resist solubility (detachability) and the solubility over supercritical fluid (carbon dioxide) so that clearly from this table.

[0019] However, the organic solvent of a glycol ether system is the effective matter as exfoliation liquid used together with a supercritical carbon dioxide, and it cannot be overemphasized that other matter indicated in a table 1 can be used as exfoliation liquid used together with supercritical fluid.

[0020] Next, the result of having examined whether it having been effective as exfoliation liquid which which matter uses together with a supercritical carbon dioxide in the organic solvent of a glycol ether system is explained.

[0021] The organic solvent of a glycol ether system is expressed with the following ** type.

[0022] $R-O(EO \text{ or } PO)_n-R'$ -- ** -- by this ** formula, when referred to as $R:CH_3$ set $():EO=C_2H_4O_n:2R':H$, it is set to diethylene-glycol monomethyl ether: $CH_3O(C_2H_4O)_2H$, for example.

[0023] The effectiveness as exfoliation liquid was judged in resist solubility (detachability) and the flash point.

[0024] Moreover, the judgment of resist solubility (detachability) was performed as follows.

[0025] That is, A articles and B articles were prepared as a sample with which a judgment is presented. In A articles, after applying a resist to a semi-conductor substrate, what was made to carry out ultraviolet curing, performed dry etching by halogen system gas after that, and carried out plasma treatment by O_2 gas is pointed out. Moreover, the thing which applied the resist to the semi-conductor substrate and which carried out after ultraviolet curing is pointed out in B articles. And these A articles and B articles were immersed in each exfoliation liquid of each glycol ether system in 25 degrees C and 3 minutes.

[0026] The judgment result is shown in the following table 2. In addition, it is shown that the resist was dissolved thoroughly and O in drawing has exfoliated, it is shown that O has exfoliated in the state of a lift off, it is shown that ** has the resist remainder, and x shows that the resist has not exfoliated at all. Moreover, it is shown that it is easy to treat it, so that the flash point is high.

[0027]

[A table 2]

EO/PO	n	R		CH ₃				C ₂ H ₅ C ₃ H ₇				C ₄ H ₉			
		R'	H	CH ₃		CH ₃	CH ₃	CH ₃	CH ₃	CH ₃	CH ₃	CH ₃	CH ₃	CH ₃	CH ₃
				引火点 (°C)	A品の 剥離性	B品の 剥離性	引火点 (°C)	A品の 剥離性	B品の 剥離性	引火点 (°C)	A品の 剥離性	B品の 剥離性	引火点 (°C)	A品の 剥離性	B品の 剥離性
C ₂ H ₄ O	1			43	○	◎							69	×	◎
	2			93	○	◎	57	×	◎				116	×	◎
	3			118	×	◎									
	4~						147	×	×						
C ₃ H ₈ O	1			34	×	◎							62	×	◎
	2						56	×	×				106	×	△
	3														
	4~														

[0028] In view of the solubility (detachability) of a resist, and the flash point, it turns out that the diethylene-glycol monomethyl ether and the triethylene glycol monomethyl ether are effective, and it turns out that it sees from the solubility (detachability) of a resist among these matter, and the direction of the diethylene-glycol monomethyl ether is excellent so that clearly from this table. In addition, these matter (diethylene-glycol monomethyl ether, triethylene glycol monomethyl ether) is comparatively cheap, and excelling also in profitability is known.

[0029] Thus, the result of having measured what solubility the selected exfoliation liquid (diethylene-glycol monomethyl ether) having had to a supercritical carbon dioxide is shown in the graph of drawing 2. This measurement shows the soluble change when fluctuating temperature to the supercritical carbon dioxide of 80 which is comparatively easy to treat - 100 kgf/cm².

[0030] the supercritical carbon dioxide of the heating application-of-pressure condition of 40-degree-C**5 degrees C and 90 - 100 kgf/cm² which is in the condition which is comparatively easy to treat so that clearly from this drawing -- receiving -- the diethylene-glycol monomethyl ether -- ten-mol% (this solubility is the desired value of the solubility needed for washing of high degree of accuracy) -- it turns out that the above solubility is obtained.

[0031] Next, the resist clearance approach by this invention is explained based on drawing 1 R> 1. First, the washed object (semi-conductor substrate) A of a resist adhesion condition is immersed in the exfoliation tub 2 with which the exfoliation liquid 1 of the diethylene-glycol monomethyl ether heated by 40 degrees C was filled up for 3 minutes. The resist applied to the washed object A by this is dissolved. Since the solubility of a resist is high as the diethylene-glycol monomethyl ether was mentioned above, a resist is dissolved certainly.

[0032] After containing the washed object A which the resist dissolved with exfoliation liquid 1 to the pressure-resistant rinse tub 3, the rinse tub 3 is sealed. And it washes for 3 minutes, pouring the supercritical carbon dioxide 4 with 100 atmospheric pressures (about 100kg/cm²) of 40 degrees C into the rinse tub 3.

[0033] The content volume/min of the rinse tub 3, and extent are suitable for the injection rate of the supercritical carbon dioxide 4. Moreover, since it is easy to make 100 atmospheric pressures and the 40-degree C supercritical carbon dioxide 4, they can supply the supercritical carbon dioxide 4 as a comparatively easy manufacturing facility is also.

[0034] With the supercritical carbon dioxide 4 of 40 degrees C and a 100 atmospheric-pressure condition, the high solubility of 18.63-mol% is obtained to the exfoliation liquid 1 of the diethylene-glycol monomethyl ether (refer to drawing 2). Moreover, the supercritical carbon dioxide 4 is equipped with high permeability and diffusibility. Therefore, the supercritical carbon dioxide 4 permeates to the details of the pattern formed in the washed object A, and can perform an inquiry of a resist and exfoliation liquid 1. therefore -- even if it is the washed object A with which the detailed pattern was formed -- a resist and exfoliation liquid 1 -- precision -- it will be washed highly.

[0035] After washing by the supercritical carbon dioxide 4 is completed, lid 3a of the rinse tub 3 is opened, and the rinse tub 3 interior is returned to ordinary temperature ordinary pressure. Then, since the supercritical carbon dioxide 4 becomes a gas and evaporates in a ***** instant, a washed object A is dried, without a stain arising on a front face. Moreover, to a living thing, since the supercritical carbon-dioxide object 4 which evaporates at this time and is diffused is almost harmless, it does not need to form a special exhaust air facility etc.

[0036] In order to raise the exfoliation effectiveness of this invention further, another exfoliation tub 2' (graphic display abbreviation) which poured in exfoliation liquid 1' of the diethylene-glycol monomethyl ether is prepared, a washed object A is contained to the exfoliation tub 2', and it may be made to carry out the rinse of the washed object A by exfoliation liquid 1' before washing by the supercritical carbon dioxide 4. By doing in this way, the drag-in of the resist to the pressure-resistant rinse tub 3 can be lost, and the rinse effectiveness of the washed object A by the supercritical carbon dioxide 4 can be heightened. In addition, the reclosing of exfoliation liquid 1' used for the rinse in this case can be carried out to the exfoliation tub 2, and it can also be reused as exfoliation liquid 1 for the resist dissolution.

[0037] By the way, amines, a surfactant, etc. may be made to mix in need ***** exfoliation liquid 1 in this invention.

[0038]

[Effect of the Invention] According to this invention, the following effectiveness is acquired as mentioned above.

[0039] (1) Since clearance washing of a resist and the exfoliation liquid is carried out by the high supercritical fluid of penetrating power and diffusing power, it becomes possible to remove to high degree of accuracy also in the detailed pattern part of a washed object.

[0040] Therefore, the degree of integration of a semiconductor device etc. follows on going up, and the dimension of a processing pattern will become very effective [the resist clearance approach of this invention] from now on in the inclination to make it detailed increasingly and for the demand to processing dimensional accuracy to become severe.

[0041] (2) Since it can dry momentarily, making a substrate front face generate silverfish of supercritical fluid is lost.

[0042] (3) The amount of the dangerous organic solvent used decreases on the part using supercritical fluid, and handling, and danger, such as explosion and a fire, becomes low.

[0043] (4) The amount of waste fluid can be decreased by using supercritical fluid, and the part and waste fluid processing cost can be reduced.

[0044] (5) As a facility of a washing process, since what is necessary is to prepare only the processing tub for minimum supercritical fluid, reduction of the installation cost of a processing facility and the cutback of equipment occupancy area can be aimed at.

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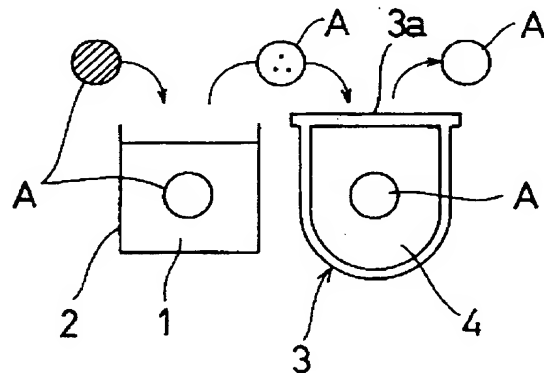
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(54) 【発明の名称】 レジスト除去方法およびレジスト剥離液

(57) 【要約】

【課題】 精度の高いレジスト除去を行えるようにする。

【解決手段】 基板A上に塗布したレジストを剥離液1で溶解させたのち、基板Aを、レジストおよび剥離液1に対して溶解性を有する超臨界流体4で洗浄する。



【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項 1】 基板上に塗布したレジストを剥離液で溶解させたのち、前記基板を、レジストおよび剥離液に対して溶解性を有する超臨界流体で洗浄することを特徴とするレジスト除去方法。

【請求項 2】 前記剥離液として、グリコールエーテル系の有機溶剤を用いることを特徴とする請求項 1 記載のレジスト除去方法。

【請求項 3】 前記超臨界流体として、二酸化炭素の超臨界流体を用いることを特徴とする請求項 1 記載のレジスト除去方法。

【請求項 4】 基板に付着したレジストを剥離するレジスト剥離液であって、レジスト剥離後に超臨界流体によりリンスされて、前記超臨界流体中に溶けこむ、グリコールエーテル系有機溶剤を主成分とすることを特徴とするレジスト剥離液。

【請求項 5】 基板に付着したレジストを剥離するレジスト剥離液であって、レジスト剥離後に超臨界流体によりリンスされる、前記超臨界流体との相溶性の良いグリコールエーテル系の有機溶剤を主成分とすることを特徴とするレジスト剥離液。

【請求項 6】 請求項 4 または請求項 5 記載のレジスト剥離液であって、前記有機溶剤はジエチレングリコールモノメチルエーテルであることを特徴とするレジスト剥離液。

【発明の詳細な説明】

【0001】

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明は、半導体素子や液晶ディスプレイなどの製造工程において、パターン形成用に用いられたレジストを基板から除去する方法、および基板に付着したレジストを剥離するレジスト剥離液に関する。

【0002】

【従来の技術】半導体基板に対してウェット方式でパターンを形成する際に用い、パターン形成後は不要になるレジストは、従来から、図 3 に示すように、剥離液 10 により溶解させ、その後、剥離液専用のリンス剤 11 とアルコール 12 と超純水 13 とによりリンスを行うことで除去されていた。レジストが除去された被洗浄物（半導体基板）A は更にアルコールのペーパー 14 を用いて乾燥されていた。このようにして用いられるレジストの剥離液 10 としては、従来より各種の有機系或いは無機系の化合物が研究され、用いられてきた。

【0003】剥離液 10 として、実用的に用いられる例としては、従来から、有機系では、有機スルホン酸を主体とする剥離液（特開昭 51-72503 号公報など）があり、アルキレングリコールを主体とするものでは、（特公 43-7695 号公報など）に示す剥離液があり、ジメチルスルホキシド、ジメチルホルムアミド等の高極性溶剤を主体とするものとしては、（特開昭 6

0-66424 号公報、米国特許第 4304681 号の明細書など）に示す剥離液があり、または γ-ブチロラクトン、N-ジメチルホルムアミド等の極性溶剤とアミノアルコールとの混合物よりなるものとしては、（特開昭 64-81949 号）に示す剥離液がある。このように種々の剥離液が研究、開発されており、それらの中には有効な剥離液も見いだされている。

【0004】

【発明が解決しようとする課題】しかしながら、レジストの除去は、剥離液 10 によってレジストを溶解する工程と、剥離液 10 によって溶解されたレジストと剥離液 10 とをリンス剤 11 とアルコール 12 と超純水 13 とによって洗浄する工程と、ペーパー 14 によって乾燥する工程とからなっており、剥離液が高い剥離効果を発揮できるようになっても、洗浄工程や乾燥工程もそれに伴って進歩しなければ、微細化の進んだ半導体の製造工程において精度の高いレジスト除去を行うことができなかった。

【0005】具体的には、

- ・パターン細部に対するリンス剤 11、アルコール 12、および超純水 13 の浸透不足に起因するレジストや剥離液 10 の残存や再付着、
- ・アルコールペーパー 14 を用いた乾燥工程にある程度の時間を要するために、乾燥工程中に被洗浄物 A の表面にシミが発生する、

といった問題を生じさせていた。

【0006】さらには、従来のレジスト除去方法では、

- ・レジスト溶解、洗浄、乾燥の各工程に多数の処理槽が必要であって、処理設備の設置コストが高くなるうえ、これら設備の設置に大きな面積を必要とする、
- ・引火性の高い有機溶剤を用いるために作業の危険性が高い、
- ・洗浄に高価な超純水を多量に必要とするので、その分処理コストが上昇する、
- ・大量の廃液が発生して、その処理が煩雑となる、

等の問題もあった。

【0007】したがって、本発明においては、粘度が低く、対象物に対して浸透しやすい特徴を有する超臨界流体に着目し、この超臨界流体を用いて、精度の高いレジスト除去を達成することを目的としている。

【0008】

【課題を解決するための手段】このような目的を達成するために、本発明においては、基板上に塗布したレジストを剥離液で溶解させたのち、前記基板を、レジストおよび剥離液に対して溶解性を有する超臨界流体で洗浄することに特徴を有している。

【0009】超臨界流体とは、次のように定義されている。すなわち、物質には気体と液体とが共存できなくなる固有の最高温度および最高圧力を持っており、それぞれ臨界温度、臨界圧力と呼んでおり、さらには、物質が

臨界温度、臨界圧力の状態になる点を臨界点と呼んでいる。超臨界流体とは、物質が臨界点を越えた温度ないし圧力の領域にある状態を称して定義されている。

【0010】このように定義される超臨界流体には、

- ・気体と液体の中間の性質を有しており、微細な部分にも浸透可能である、
 - ・拡散係数が高く溶解した汚染物を素早く分散することができる、
 - ・常温、常圧にもどすことによりガス状になり、直ちに蒸発乾燥させることができる、
- といった特徴を有している。

【0011】このような特徴を有する超臨界流体によって、レジスト溶解済みの基板を洗浄すれば、微細なパターン細部に入り込んだレジストや剥離液にまで超臨界流体が浸透して、残存したり再付着するレジストや剥離液を溶解させることで、これらを洗い流すことができる。さらには、洗浄後、超臨界流体を常温常圧に戻すことで瞬時に蒸発させることができる。

【0012】

【発明の実施の形態】以下、本発明の一実施の形態を図面を参照して詳細に説明する。まず、本発明のレジスト洗浄方法に適した超臨界流体および剥離液の選定を説明する。

【0013】超臨界流体の選定条件としては、

- ・安全性が高いこと、
 - ・扱い易い臨界点を有していること、
 - ・安価で経済的であること、
- 等が挙げられる。これらの諸条件を満たす物質として、二酸化炭素、亜硫酸ガス、亜酸化窒素、エタン、プロパン、フロンガスといった物質が挙げられる。その中でも二酸化炭素（炭酸ガス）が最も適している。これは以下の理由によっている。すなわち、二酸化炭素は生物に対

してほとんど無害であるうえ、臨界点も31℃、70気圧と比較的扱い易くなっており、さらには、安価で入手が容易な物質である。このような理由により、本実施例では、超臨界流体として二酸化炭素を採用している。しかしながら、上記に掲げた二酸化炭素以外の物質でも超臨界流体の洗浄体として用いることができるのはいうまでもない。

【0014】一方、剥離液の選定条件としては、

- ・レジストに対する剥離性（溶解性）が高いこと、
- ・超臨界流体（二酸化炭素）に対する溶解性が高いこと、
- ・安全性が高いこと、

等が挙げられる。これらの諸条件を満たす物質として、グリコールエーテル系（グリコールジエーテル系を含む）、ケトン系、ラクトン系、エーテル系、フォルムアミド系、窒素含有物系の有機溶剤が挙げられる。

【0015】そして、安全性を鑑みて、グリコールエーテル系、エーテル系、窒素含有物系の各溶剤が候補として挙げられる。これらの候補をレジストに対する溶解性（剥離性）、超臨界流体（二酸化炭素）に対する溶解性で比較した結果を次の表1に示す。

【0016】なお、レジストに対する剥離性は次のようにして比較した。すなわち、被洗浄物（半導体基板）A上にレジストのみを塗布した試料を、25℃、3分（量産ベースの剥離時間の目標は通常8分）の浸漬条件で各剥離液に浸漬し、レジストの剥離性を比較した。また、超臨界流体（二酸化炭素）に対する溶解性は、溶解度を10mol%以上を有し、かつ均一に溶解するものに◎を、溶解度が10mol%以上あるものの均一に溶解しないものに○を、それぞれ記入した。

【0017】

【表1】

分類	例示物質	レジスト溶解性(剥離)	超臨界二酸化炭素
グリコールエーテル系	ジエチレングリコールモノメチルエーテル	◎	◎
エーテル系	テトラヒドロフラン	◎	○
窒素含有物	N-メチル2ピロリドン	◎	○
ラクトン系	γ-ブチロラクトン	◎	○

【0018】この表から明らかなように、グリコールエーテル系の有機溶剤がレジスト溶解性（剥離性）、超臨界流体（二酸化炭素）に対する溶解性においても優れていることがわかる。

【0019】しかしながら、グリコールエーテル系の有機溶剤は、超臨界二酸化炭素と併用する剥離液として有効な物質であって、表1中に記載された他の物質も、超臨界流体と併用する剥離液として用いることができるのはいうまでもない。

【0020】次に、グリコールエーテル系の有機溶剤の中でどの物質が超臨界二酸化炭素と併用する剥離液とし

て有効であるかを検討した結果を説明する。

【0021】グリコールエーテル系の有機溶剤は次の①式で表される。

【0022】 $R-O(EO \text{ 又は } PO)_n-R' \cdots \textcircled{1}$

この①式では、例えば、

$R: CH_3$ 基

$() : EO = C_2H_4O$

$n: 2$

$R': H$

とした場合には、ジエチレングリコールモノメチルエーテル: $CH_3O(C_2H_4O)_2H$ となる。

【0023】剥離液としての有効性はレジスト溶解性（剥離性）および引火点で判定した。

【0024】また、レジスト溶解性（剥離性）の判定は次のように行った。

【0025】すなわち、判定に供する試料としてA品とB品とを用意した。A品とは、半導体基板にレジストを塗布したのち、紫外線硬化させ、その後、ハロゲン系ガスでドライエッチングを行い、O₂ガスでプラズマ処理したものを指している。また、B品とは半導体基板にレジストを塗布したのち紫外線硬化させたものを指してい

る。そして、これらA品、B品を25℃、3分間で各グリコールエーテル系の各剥離液に浸漬した。

【0026】その判定結果を次の表2に示す。なお、図中◎は完全にレジストが溶解されて剥離していることを示し、○はリフトオフ状態で剥離できていることを示し、△はレジスト残りがあることを示し、×はレジストが全く剥離されていないことを示している。また、引火点は高いほど扱い易いことを示している。

【0027】

【表2】

R R'	ED/PO	n	CH ₃						C ₂ H ₅ C ₃ H ₇		C ₄ H ₉						
			H			CH ₃					H			CH ₃			
			引火点 (℃)	A品の 剥離性	B品の 剥離性	引火点 (℃)	A品の 剥離性	B品の 剥離性			引火点 (℃)	A品の 剥離性	B品の 剥離性	引火点 (℃)	A品の 剥離性	B品の 剥離性	
C ₂ H ₄ O	1	43	○	◎						69	×	◎	85	×	△		
	2	93	○	◎	57	×	◎			116	×	◎					
	3	118	×	◎													
	4~				147	×	×										
C ₃ H ₈ O	1	34	×	◎						62	×	◎					
	2				56	×	×			106	×	△					
	3																
	4~																

【0028】この表から明らかなように、レジストの溶解性（剥離性）、引火点からみて、ジエチレングリコールモノメチルエーテルとトリエチレングリコールモノメチルエーテルとが有効であることがわかり、これらの物質のうち、レジストの溶解性（剥離性）から見てジエチレングリコールモノメチルエーテルの方が優れていることがわかる。なお、これらの物質（ジエチレングリコールモノメチルエーテル、トリエチレングリコールモノメチルエーテル）は比較的安価で経済性にも優れていることが知られている。

【0029】このようにして選定した剥離液（ジエチレングリコールモノメチルエーテル）が超臨界二酸化炭素に対してどの程度の溶解性を有するかを測定した結果を図2のグラフに示す。この測定は比較的扱い易い80~100kgf/cm²の超臨界二酸化炭素に対して温度を変動させたときの溶解性の変化を示している。

【0030】この図から明らかなように、比較的扱い易い状態である40℃±5℃、90~100kgf/cm²の加熱加圧状態の超臨界二酸化炭素に対してジエチレングリコールモノメチルエーテルは、10mol%（この溶解度は高精度の洗浄に必要とされる溶解度の目標値

である）以上の溶解度が得られることがわかる。

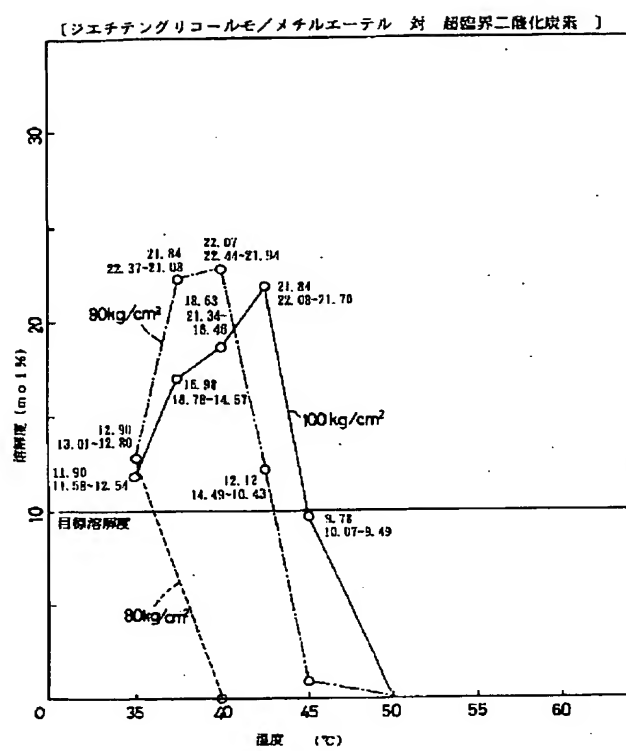
【0031】次に、本発明によるレジスト除去方法を図1に基づいて説明する。まず、レジスト付着状態の被洗浄物（半導体基板）Aを、40℃に加熱されたジエチレングリコールモノメチルエーテルの剥離液1が充填された剥離槽2に3分間浸漬する。これによって被洗浄物Aに塗布されたレジストを溶解させる。ジエチレングリコールモノメチルエーテルは上述したように、レジストの溶解性が高いので、レジストは確実に溶解される。

【0032】剥離液1によってレジストが溶解した被洗浄物Aを耐圧性のリンス槽3に収納したうえでリンス槽3を密封する。そして、リンス槽3に100気圧（ほぼ100kg/cm²）40℃の超臨界二酸化炭素4を注入しながら3分間洗浄する。

【0033】超臨界二酸化炭素4の注入量は、リンス槽3の内容積/min、程度が適当である。また、100気圧、40℃の超臨界二酸化炭素4は作り易いため、比較的簡単な製造設備でもって超臨界二酸化炭素4を供給することができる。

【0034】40℃、100気圧状態の超臨界二酸化炭素4では、ジエチレングリコールモノメチルエーテルの

【図2】



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